

From: clenckus@cox.net
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 2:56 PM
Subject: Please Act to Stop Media Monopolies

Senator John McCain
U S. Senate
241 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McCain,

Is this the beginning of the end for accurate and unbiased media information?

I urge you to tell the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) not to weaken the rules that help preserve competition and diversity among the owners of America's newspapers and radio and TV stations.

As you know, the FCC is reviewing rules currently for media ownership and is likely to allow big corporations to dominate ownership of media in a particular city or town. If that happens, one company may be allowed to own the local newspaper, several TV and radio stations and the cable TV system in the same community. There would be fewer owners of networks, stations and newspapers nationwide.

Media ownership would be concentrated among fewer companies and the public's ability to have open, informed discussion with a wide variety of viewpoints would be compromised. Plus, it likely would result in higher costs for businesses that advertise in local media, and those costs likely would be passed onto consumers.

The FCC is expected to vote on whether to change the rules on June 2. The public comments submitted to the FCC by individuals have been opposed to media consolidation overwhelmingly. Americans understand that the public interest is not being served by deregulation that reduces competition.

Please tell the FCC to reinstate its traditional media ownership rules for the sake of competition and democracy.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris clenckus
1206 Beverly Hills

Norman, Oklahoma 73072

cc:

Senator Don Nickles

Senator Jim Inhofe

Senator Ernest Hollings

Representative Tom Cole

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps

FCC Commissioner Kevin J. Martin

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

From: gusespadilla@hotmail.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 2:56 PM
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Sincerely,

Gustavo Padilla
7429 Goode St.
San Diego, California 92139-3931

cc:

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Ernest Hollings
FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell
FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps
FCC Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

From: chansen@dellepro.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 2:56 PM
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Sincerely,

Carl Hansen
18542 E. 1st
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74108

cc.

Senator Don Nickles
Senator Jim Inhofe
Representative John Sullivan
Senator Ernest Hollings
FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell
FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
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FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps

FCC Commissioner Kevin J. Martin

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

From: tjmarr@dellepro.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 2:58 PM
Subject: Please Act to Stop Media Monopolies

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 241 Russell Senate Office Building
 Washington, DC 20510

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jill Schaub Marriner
 5918 E. 114th St.
 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74137

cc

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Senator Jim Inhofe
Representative John Sullivan
Senator Ernest Hollings
FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell
FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps
FCC Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps
FCC Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

From: Mark Davis
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 2:59 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Mark Davis (Kats2humans2@aol.com) writes:

Dear Commissioner Adelstein:

Thank you for your courageous stand against the deregulation of media ownership. As a progressive activist I have found it increasingly difficult to find alternative viewpoints to the mainstream media monopolies. Diversity is not the hallmark of current media content or ownership and the decision to further deregulate will make this problem even worse. Robert McChesney in his book, "Rich Media, Poor Democracy", argues that the real beneficiaries of the so-called Information Age are the wealthy investors, advertisers, and a handful of enormous media, computer, and telecommunications corporations. This concentrated corporate control, McChesney maintains, is disastrous for any notion of participatory democracy.

Any effort to increase this concentration will only further damage participatory democracy. Thanks again, I love it when an individual thinks and acts for themselves despite which president appoints them!

Mark Davis, MSW
3516 43rd Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55406

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 204.73.55.90
Remote IP address: 204.73.55.90

From: jfeit@sfsu.edu
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 3:01 PM
Subject: Oppose media deregulation and demand public hearings

Dear FCC Commissioners and Chairman Powell,

cc: my members of Congress

I urge you to vote to protect the public interest by dropping the FCC's plans to end critical safeguards designed to ensure diversity of media ownership and to delay the unnecessarily rushed vote on media ownership scheduled for June 2nd.

Sincerely,
Joana Feit
Joana Feit
609 Masonic Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94117

From: jfeit@sfsu.edu
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 3:01 PM
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Sincerely,
Joana Feit
Joana Feit
609 Masonic Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94117

From: John Rook
To: Mike Powell, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein, KA KQAWBSITE
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 3:04 PM
Subject: FCC Clear Channelized

WASHINGTON (AP)--The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced today that it has agreed to be acquired by Clear Channel Communications (CCU) of San Antonio, Texas.

In announcing the deal, FCC Chairman Micheal Powell said "This transaction will greatly expedite the demise of the antiquated concept of local ownership of media outlets. Critics of deals such as this need to understand that Clear Channel embodies all that is good and decent in the broadcast industry, and anyone that believes otherwise clearly isn't listening to the news."

In a statement issued today, Clear Channel CEO Lowry Mays said "This acquisition is a perfect strategic fit for Clear Channel. The FCC has been a wonderful business partner for the past several years, and has carried out our directions with great enthusiasm. We are proud to welcome the FCC into the Clear Channel family of companies."

Although terms of the deal were not immediately available, It is said that the acquisition will include all components, operating units and assets of the FCC, except for its soul, which was sold in a prior transaction to Satan, Inc. in 1996

Clear Channel, which owns broadcast facilities, shopping malls, billboard advertising, and concert promotion units all across North America, has been on an acquisition binge for the past several years, and has recently broadened the scope of its acquisitions to include government entities. In a recent deal, CCU purchased a 50% interest in the U.S. Congress, and is reportedly close to striking a deal to purchase The White House. Clear Channel already has been integrelly running the George Bush presidency.

Clear Channel's Stock stood at \$42.09 at the close of Monday's trading, up \$1.39, or 3 42%

www.JohnRook.com

From: juliannechapin@hotmail.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 3:17 PM
Subject: Oppose media deregulation and demand public hearings

Dear FCC Commissioners and Chairman Powell,

cc. my members of Congress

I urge you to vote to protect the public interest by dropping the FCC's plans to end critical safeguards designed to ensure diversity of media ownership and to delay the unnecessarily rushed vote on media ownership scheduled for June 2nd. Deregulation would allow one media conglomerate to own up to 45% of the available news and media stations. That's about the same percentage it takes to win a presidential election. Kind of makes you think!

Sincerely, Julianne Chapin
Julianne Chapin
21 Blooming Place
Wakefield, RI 02879

From: juliannechapin@hotmail.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 3 17 PM
Subject: Oppose media deregulation and demand public hearings

Dear FCC Commissioners and Chairman Powell,

cc: my members of Congress

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Sincerely, Julianne Chapin

Julianne Chapin
21 Blooming Place
Wakefield, RI 02879

From: E. Duff Wrobbel, Ph.D.
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 3:20 PM
Subject: Request for Assistance

5 June 2003

From: E. Duff Wrobbel, Ph.D.
413 Alderwood Court
Edwardsville, IL 62025

To: F.C.C. Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear Commissioner Adelstein:

I am writing to you to ask for your help in resolving a small but important problem. While watching one of the many so-called "reality shows" on television recently, I was disheartened to hear one of the guests, in the course of a heated disagreement with another, use the term "retard" as an insult. As both a professional educator and the parent of a child with Down syndrome, I make it a point to never allow people to use this word as a disparagement in my presence. Unfortunately, I have less control over what comes into my home via the television. This is why I am coming to you for help. Simply put, I wish to see the word "retard" and its variations, when used in a non-clinical or non-technical manner, electronically deleted from media broadcasts. While I understand that FCC regulations regarding indecent and obscene speech do not apply, a strong case can be made using "hate-speech" laws. Consider the following (full references available if requested):

- o According to the national ARC, roughly 7.2 million Americans are effected by mental retardation or related developmental disabilities. For comparison, the African-American population, according to the most recent U.S. Census reports, is 34.7 million, the Asian-American population is 10.6 million, the Native-American population is 2.7 million, and the population of Jewish Americans is 6.2 million. And if we are to assume an average of 2 parents and one sibling associated with each mentally retarded citizen, then we have an effected population of 28.8 million Americans.
- o According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Justice Statistics, the percentage of hate crime incidents by attribution in 2001 was as follows:
 - Racial prejudice 44.9%
 - Ethnicity/national origin 21.6%
 - Religious Intolerance 18.8%
 - Sexual-Orientation Bias 14.3%
 - Disability bias 0.4%
- o Neither the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports nor the National Crime Victimization Survey of the Bureau of Justice Statistics report disabilities. However, according to the Report on Crime Victims with Developmental Disabilities as published in 2001 by the National Academy Press, conservative estimates place those with developmental disabilities at an average of 4 to 10 times greater risk for violent crimes (Sobsey et al, 1995). Another study found a 3 time greater risk of assault, an 11 times greater risk of sexual assault, and a 13 times

greater risk of robbery. In addition, it is estimated that 40% of crimes against those with mild mental retardation and 71% of those against those with severe mental retardation go unreported (Wilson & Brewer, 1992)

- o According to the 2001 Risk and Prevention of Maltreatment of Children with Disabilities by the U. S. Department of Health & Human Services, children with disabilities are more vulnerable to maltreatment than children without disabilities. In the only national study conducted to date (Crosse, Kaye & Ratnofsky, 1993), children with disabilities were found to be 1.7 times more likely to be maltreated than children without disabilities. A study conducted in Omaha, Nebraska in 1997 found that children with disabilities were 3 4 times more likely to be maltreated than were children without disabilities (Sullivan & Knutson, in press).
- o Many researchers believe that societal attitudes and beliefs play a significant role in placing children with disabilities at risk for maltreatment. Steinberg and Hylton (1998), for example, contend that many of our institutionalized beliefs, practices, and policies "devalue" children with disabilities. Children with disabilities then may internalize societal attitudes and feel shame or feel less worthy of being treated respectfully (National Resource Center on Child Sexual Abuse, 1994). Sobsey (1994) suggests that "group membership and social distance influence our attitudes about the acceptability of violence. Attitudes about individuals or groups that tend to depersonalize, dehumanize, or distance them appear to make violence against them more acceptable" (p. 307).
- o The Americans with Disabilities Act (which explicitly includes people with mental disabilities) is designed to integrate people with disabilities fully into the mainstream of American life. It protects.
 - * all people who currently have a disability;
 - * all people who have a history of a disability;
 - * all people who are regarded as having a disability by others, whether or not they actually have a disability; and
 - * all people who are not themselves disabled but who encounter discrimination on the basis of their association or relationship with a person who has a disability-parents of children with disabilities, for example.

I could continue at considerable length, but I believe the above is sufficient to make my point. People with mental retardation represent a significant percentage of our population. They are, both as children and as adults, uniquely singled out for abuse and discrimination because of their disability. Our government clearly recognizes this group of individuals both as a class of hate crime victims and as worthy of specific Federal protection. How, then, is it still acceptable to call people a "retard" on television? I could not go on television and refer to demeaning work as "nigger work" nor to bargaining as "jewling someone down" because these are clearly hateful expressions. How is calling someone a "retard" any different? Allowing this word and its variations to continue to be heard on our public airways contributes to discrimination against a significant part of our nation's people. My own daughter, while indeed mentally retarded, is not stupid. Carrie Bergeron, who has Down syndrome and just this month received her bachelor's degree, is not stupid. Jason Kingsley and Mitchell Levitz,, who both have Down syndrome and co-authored a nationally published book, are not stupid Brandon Fullecido, who has Down syndrome and a black belt in

Karate, is not stupid I would like my daughter, and all of us, to feel safe watching television. As Americans, we can and must be better than this. Please help me to resolve this problem. Help me take this hateful word off the television. Thank you.

Sincerely,

E. Duff Wrobbel, Holly's father

From: Thalmann
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 3:24 PM
Subject: New Rules

There is a name for what you have done. It is called prostitution.

Cynthia L. Scott
Robert H. Thalmann
Houston, TX

From: lcculusphan1@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 3:24 PM
Subject: Oppose media deregulation and demand public hearings

Dear FCC Commissioners and Chairman Powell,

cc: my members of Congress

I urge you to vote to protect the public interest by dropping the FCC's plans to end critical safeguards designed to ensure diversity of media ownership and to delay the unnecessarily rushed vote on media ownership scheduled for June 2nd.

Sincerely,
Molly Malloy
720 Airport Blvd # 77
Austin, TX 78702

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720 Airport Blvd # 77
Austin, TX 78702

From: Richard Wagenblast
To: Michael Copps, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Jun 4, 2003 3:35 PM
Subject: Re: FCC's Easing of Media Ownership Restrictions

Dear Commissioners Copps and Adelstein,

I applaude both of you fine gentlemen, and you should be proud for the stands you have taken.

I regret that the nicely worded e-mail that I sent to Chairman Powell on May 21 on this issue fell on deaf ears. I should have copied both of you so that it would have been counted among the opposed majority.

Still, while it is unbelievable that this action was taken and that common courtesies were not extended to you or the public that urged caution before revising these rules, I am very grateful that the two of you came out so strongly against these revisions (or at least in favor of strict scrutiny and full disclosure of what was proposed). I read both of your dissenting statements, and took great solace in your words and the fact that each statement was written so eloquently and forcefully. I am quite certain that the groundswell of public opinion against these new relaxations and the awful public policy that they represent, along with your willingness to speak out so strongly against them, will be instrumental in having them scrapped in future court challenges.

I again thank-you for standing with the overwhelming majority of the American people, and look forward to a return of the days when the FCC was a respected agency (both from a policy and enforcement view) which vigorously defended the public interest rather than the interests of a few giant corporations. I am a dual license holder since the 1970's, and remember well when the FCC was taken far more seriously than it is today, and I believe that if there were more like you serving on the Commission, it would still be true today. Hopefully, with the courage of future Commissioners like yourselves, it can again be true someday.

Richard Wagenblast
3 Stowe Lane
Howell, NJ 07731

General Radiotelephone License holder
and Advanced Class Amateur Operator
and Former Radio Afficionado (prior to 1996!)